

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 00410 081313Z

43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 AID-20 /115 W

----- 041687

P 081221Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9564

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL UDORN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 0410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH

SUBJ: ILL WINDS OVER THE SAUCN NAKHON LETTER FLAP

REF : A. BANGKOK 294 (NOTAL); B. FBIS BANGKOK D080423Z JAN 74;

C. FBIS BANGKOK D071117Z JAN 74; D. FBIS BANGKOK

D080912Z JAN 74

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY: THE EXPOSE OF THE BOGUS CIA LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER HAS GENERATED CONSIDERABLE INDIGNATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT, FROM STUDENTS, AND FROM THE PRESS. WHILE THE CRITICISMS ARE BITING, THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEMONSTRATIONS AT THE EMBASSY EXCEPT THE WREATH LAYING RAMORTE IN REFTEL A. WITH ANY LUCK AT ALL, THE TANAKA VISIT WILL PUSH US OFF THE FRONT PAGES, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY; BUT

SCARS FROM THIS INCIDENT WILL HEAL SLOWLY. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 00410 081313Z

1. GENERAL SAIYUD KERDPHOL, DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNIST SUPPRESSION OPERATIONS COMMAND (CSOC), GAVE A NEWS CONFERENCE SAYING THAT KOC WOULD SEND A LETTER OF

PROTEST TO THE EMBASSY. SAIYUD'S PUBLIC INDIGNATION IS OPERATIONAL BECAUSE HE VIEWS THE PROBLEM IN TERMS OF ITS EFFECT ON CSOC'S CREDIBILITY WITH THE INSURGENTS, AND CSOC'S STANDING WITH THE THAI PUBLIC IN PROSECUTION OF THE RTG COUNTERINSURGENCY EFFORT. REFTEL B CARRIES THE THAI NATIONAL RADIO ACCOUNT OF SAIYUD'S PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS ALSO BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE LETTER INCIDENT IS "REALLY BAD".

3. STUDENTS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR UMBRAGE IN A CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER, TO NEWSMEN, AND IN A LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR PRESENTED TO THE ONSU \*TE IN SONGKHLA, AND ONE DELIVERED PERSONALLY TO THE AMBASSADOR AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN CHIANG MAI JANUARY 8 (BEING REPORTED FROM CHIANG MAI).

4. EDITORIAL REACTION LAGS SOMEWHAT \*EHIND NEWS COVERAGE, BUT THE MESSAGE THAT THE PRESS IS DELIVERING IS THAT CIA ACTIVITIES ARE AN INFRINGEMENT ON THAI SOVEREIGNTY AND AN INTERFERENCE IN THAI INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND THAT THIS INCIDENT PROVES THAT THE U.S. IS NOT THAILAND'S FRIEND IN THE SAME WAY THAT THAILAND HAS BEEN FRIENDLY TO AMERICA. (SEE REFTEL C).

5. THE NATIONAL STUDENT CENTER, AND ITS AFFILIATES IN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH, HAVE PLEDGED TO PROBE AND EXPOSE THE CIA ROLD IN THAILAND (REFTEL D).

6. COMMENT: STORMS IN THAILAND USUALLY GATHER SLOWLY, AND IT IS TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER THE ABSENCE OF LARGE AND PROMPT DEMONSTRATIONS IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY MEANS THAT WE WILL HAVE NONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THAI MILITARY AND POLICE LEADERS ARE LESS AGITATED THAN THOSE IN THE CIVIL BUREAUCRACY. BUT THE STUDENTS WILL BE THE KEY FORCE. THE INDIGNATION IS REAL, RUNS DEEP, AND EXACER-  
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PAGE 03 BANGKO 00410 081313Z

BATES EVERY RESENTMENT THE THAI HAVE HELD AGAINST US. TANAKA'S VISIT MAY DEFLECT PUBLIC ATTENTION TEMPORARILY, BUT THIS INCIDENT WILL RETURN TO HAUNT US FOR A LONG TIME.  
KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INTERVENTION, SOVEREIGNTY, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT, NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JAN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BANGKO00410  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740157/aaaacbvi.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, TH, CIA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005